

CITY OF CARO REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

Mayor Joe Greene called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on January 17, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Joe Greene, City Council: Bob Eschenbacher, Kory Batschke, Emily Campbell, Don Hall, Tisha Jones-Holubec, and Jill White

Absent: None

Others: Matthew Lane – City Manager, Rita Papp – Clerk, Michele Perry – Treasurer, Brian Newcomb – Police Chief, Randy Heckroth – Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer, Nora Lipetzky – Project Coordinator, and other guests.

AGENDA APPROVAL

22-M-9

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to approve the agenda with the addition of: # 7. Six Month Financial Update Report, # 8. Change Council Meeting time, and Committee/Liaison Position Reports - # 11. Historical Commission. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Council Minutes – January 4, 2022
2. Finance Committee of the Whole minutes – January 4, 2022
3. Invoices
4. Department Reports (****Report at Second Meeting Only**)
 - A. Police Report – Chief Brian Newcomb
 - B. Fire Report – Chief Randall Heckroth
 - C. Code Enforcement – Randall Heckroth
 - D. DPW/Water Reports – None
 - E. WWTP – None
 - F. Municipal Parking Violations Bureau Report – Rita Papp

22-M-10

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Campbell to approve the consent agenda as presented including invoices. Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA: (action required)

1. Open Public Hearing – Parks & Recreation 5-year Masterplan

Mayor Green opened Public Hearing – Parks & Recreation 5-year Masterplan.

Sean Smith – Commented on the Parks & Recreation Plan. He is proud of all the hard work that went into this project. The committee gained good input and some tools to use going forward.

Nora Lipetzky, Project Coordinator – Commented on the all the work that went into creating the Parks & Recreation 5-year Masterplan. She went over the three components of the Parks & Recreation 5-year Masterplan and an in-depth explanation on each component.

Herb Sheardy – Inquired on total population of the City of Caro.

Matt Lane, City Manager – Thanked Nora Lipetzky, Project Coordinator for all her hard work and dedication on completing the Parks & Recreation 5-year Masterplan.

2. Close Public Hearing – Parks & Recreation 5-year Masterplan

22-M-11

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to close the Public Hearing – Parks & Recreation 5-year Masterplan.

Motion carried.

3. Action on Parks & Recreation 5-year Masterplan

22-M-12

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to accept and approve the Parks & Recreation 5-year Masterplan as presented.

Motion carried.

4. Small Urban Program Project Selection Committee Proposal

22-M-13

Motion by Batschke, seconded by Eschenbacher to accept the recommendations of the City Manager and allow him to submit program applications to the East Michigan Council of Governments and Michigan Department of Transportation.

Motion carried.

5. Performance Resolution for Governmental Agencies – MDOT Permit

22-M-14

Motion by Batschke, seconded by White to accept and approve the Performance Resolution for Governmental Agencies – MDOT permit and authorize City Clerk to sign the document.

Motion carried.

6. Consent and Franchise Agreement – Putman Medical Project

22-M-15

Motion by Hall, seconded by Jones-Holubec to accept and approve the Consent and Franchise Agreement – Putman Medical Project as presented and to authorize the City Clerk and Mayor to sign document.

Roll Call Vote: Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Mayor Greene – no.

Motion carried.

7. Six Month Financial Update Report

22-M-16

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Batschke to accept and approve the Six-Month Financial Update Report as presented by Michele Perry – Treasurer.

Motion carried.

8. Change Council Meeting Time

22-M-17

Motion by Batschke, seconded by Eschenbacher to postpone this item to next Council meeting.

Motion carried.

ITEMS PENDING/POSTPONED: None

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS:

1. Economic Development Corporation (Greene) – Meeting is Wednesday, January 19, 2022.
2. Chamber of Commerce (Manager) – Caro Chamber of Commerce is considering joining the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. This is the 100th Anniversary year for the Caro Chamber of Commerce. They are working on a centennial logo. The Caro Chamber of Commerce is working on enhancing downtown events, promoting businesses, and a strategic plan.
3. Downtown Development Authority (Hall) – Meeting was canceled.
4. Fair Board (White) – No report.
5. Parks & Recreation (White) – 5-year Masterplan is complete. Meeting is Wednesday, January 19, 2022. She gave an update on the chair fundraiser for Parks & Recreation.
6. Planning Commission (Eschenbacher) – Had meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. RightWay Auto is coming to Caro in the old Family Video building. There was an update presented to the Planning Commission on the Masterplan from Rowe. There is a Community Vision Session for the Masterplan scheduled for February 1, 2022, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Midway Hall at the Fairgrounds.
7. Tuscola County Board of Commissioners (Jones-Holubec) – Read the minutes. Commented that the County hired a new 911 Dispatcher and stated that it was Radon awareness month. Senator Daley will be at the next Tuscola County Board of Commissioners meeting January 24, 2022.
8. Zoning Board of Appeals (Greene) – No meetings.
9. Indianfields Township (Greene) – Township board discussed the purchase of a LED sign, the franchise agreement, Indianfields Park, GPS for cemetery plots, and they also changed their financial institution to Frankenmuth Credit Union.
10. Almer Township (Campbell) – Township board discussed the 1st reading of their solar ordinance, MedStar, redistricting, and their roads.

11. Historical Commission (no longer supported with a City Liaison) – Council Member Jones-Holubec shared an email she received with concerns regarding a bill for repairs on a thermostat in the building. City Manager stated that according to their lease agreement, they must maintain the building. City is no longer responsible.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS – Written report submitted.

Highlighted - Aldi's project & MDOT requiring permits, working on scheduling a meeting with stakeholders and MMR, had a lunch meeting with EDC, working on adult use permits for marihuana, attended a virtual re-development meeting, and working on the budget.

CLERK'S REPORT – Written report submitted

TREASURER'S REPORT – Written report submitted

Verbal addition – Working with Frankenmuth Credit Union to transition to their institution. She has contacted all the other banks to inform them of the Council's decision to go with another banking institution. She is attending online training Thursday and Friday.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Randy Heckroth, City of Caro Fire Chief – Thanked the City Staff, the City Council, and the City Manager for continued support. Commented that the Fire Department had 308 calls for 2021. He continued to discuss in detail his report that was submitted.

22-M-18

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Batschke to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Motion carried.

Rita Papp
City Clerk